

NOTE ON A FLIGHT BY MALES OF
SCAPTOLENUS OCHRAETUS HORNROBERT H. TURNBOW, JR.¹ AND JAMES E. WAPPES²

Observations of flights by *Scaptolenus* spp. (Coleoptera:Cebrionidae) have been rare. Werner (1969) reported on flights by *S. fuscipennis* Fall and *S. mouffleti* Chev., but otherwise the literature is meager. On September 26, 1976 while collecting in Lake Corpus Christi State Park, San Patricio, Co., Texas, we were fortunate to observe a mass flight by *S. ochraetus* Horn. Our evening collecting activities were interrupted approximately one half hour after full darkness by the onset of a thunderstorm. Rainfall totaling 1.49 inches (as measured at the nearby Sinton recording station) fell during the next hour and a half. Toward the end of this period we discovered numerous males of *S. ochraetus* crawling about on the ground under standing lights in the park. In the course of the succeeding hour 143 specimens were collected. Flight began while rainfall was still heavy and continued well beyond the storm's termination. A brief search failed to yield any females in the area.

Our observations are quite similar to those reported by Werner. Apparently flights by *Scaptolenus* spp. males during and immediately after the occurrence of heavy rains are widespread phenomena. Knowledge of this fact should facilitate the collection of species hitherto rare in collections.

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¹Department of Entomology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602.

²12110 Acorn Oak Pl., Woodlands, TX 77380.



LITERATURE NOTICES

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Description of the larva of *Dioedus punctatus* LeConte (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae), by D. K. Young. 1976. *The Great Lakes Entomologist* 9(1):79-81.

—Paul P. Shubeck